

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APRIL 11, 2011

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session, Monday, April 11, 2011 with Commissioners, Tom Barnes, Marvin Cole, Ken Masters, Deborah Adams, Auditor, and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance.

Commissioner Tom Barnes called the meeting to order, Ken Masters made the motion to approve the minutes of the March 28, 2011 meeting as presented. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

GLENWOOD ABANDON HOUSES

Laura Ryckman, Glenwood resident, appeared before the commissioners asking them assist with the infestation of abandon houses by raccoons. Ryckman informed the commissioners that her house is located on Durbin Street next to the two abandoned houses that are around the corner on State Street.

The commissioners informed Ryckman that there is not an ordinance in effect to deal with the removal of the abandoned houses. Discussion was held to sending a letter to the property owners.

Tom Barnes did say as a standing commissioner on the board of health this can be considered a health hazard.

Bill Todd, Area Plan Director, did indicate that he had previously contacted Anthony Redd the property owner of the abandoned property located at 206 State Street.

Ken Masters made the motion for county attorney Leigh Morning to prepare a letter and send a letter to the property owners. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

SOLID WASTE

Carole Yeend, Solid Waste Director, asked permission to place a pink recycling tote at center of the first floor lobby area of the courthouse. Yeend indicated that this is a reminder of the Susan B. Koleman 5 K race scheduled for Saturday April 16, 2011. Yeend noted that county employee Cindy Humphrey is participating in the race. Marvin Cole made the motion to allow the pink tote to remain in the main lobby of the courthouse throughout the month of April. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONER CERTIFICATE SALE

Dusti Woodard questioned the commissioners regarding the White Felt property that did not sell on the previous commissioner's certificate sale. Woodard was informed that the commissioners will offer this and any other properties up for sale in the future.

Glen Luedtke of SRI was present with the tax certificates for the commissioners to sign.

Marvin Cole made the motion to proceed with the process of offering the properties that did not sell at the previous commission certificate sale at a new commissioner's certificate sale. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MOSCOW (WENDEL PROPERTY)

Brian Colestock of Moscow appeared before the commissioners to discuss the Wendel property located in Moscow. Colestock reported it is now past April 1 and the fence is still standing and the structure has yet to be removed.

Tom Barnes agreed that the installed fence was to be removed along with the structure torn down by April 1, 2011. The commissioners agreed if necessary they are prepared to go to court.

Colestock reported that the Wendel's are upset with the community. The community is concerned with this being a potential dangerous situation that could escalate into something huge. Colestock shared his concerns of any kind of a fire burning accidentally down a million dollar covered bridge.

The commissioners referred to county attorney Leigh Morning for direction. Morning advised that a letter could be sent reminding the Wendel's of the agreement, time frame and breach of contract. Ken Masters made the motion for Morning to send a letter advising the Wendel's to clear the questioned property in thirty (30) days. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Todd questioned the letter. Morning clarified that the letter Todd questioned had no connection to the letter sent by the Area Plan Commission.

SHERIFF

Duane Raab, Chief Deputy, appeared in the absence of Sheriff Jeff Sherwood. Raab reported thirty-seven (37) inmates incarcerated in the Rush County Jail. Tom Barnes asked Raab to take notice of the situation in Moscow.

HIGHWAY

Jerry Sitton, Highway Superintendent, received approval of the 2010 annual report on a motion from Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.

The question was brought up that 700 North is rough east of Arlington Pike. Sitton reported that oil is now available and that they will be hitting the roads on Tuesday. Sitton also noted that Rush County roads are great compared to Henry and Decatur counties.

EMA

Tom Barnes reported in the absence of EMA Director Mike Ooley. Barnes reported that the 2009 SHSP grant equipment has been installed into the commissioner's room. The commissioners will work with the arrangement for the next four months and review the process.

Barnes will go before the council on behalf of Ooley regarding the \$1,000 given by Duke Energy. Deborah Adams gave clarification that the money received is a contribution and that Duke Energy did write a new letter as the first letter had referred to the money as a grant.

A temporary tornado plan for the courthouse was submitted. Employees and customers would retreat to the first floor restrooms for cover. Overflow would use the hallway to the janitor's office.

A severe weather radio is available to be placed in the courthouse. Ooley recommended that it be placed in the Auditor's office. Ooley also recommended that all courthouse telephones should be registered on code red. Ken Masters made the motion to approve the recommendations presented by Ooley. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IDHS will be at the courthouse on Wednesday to do a capability assessment evaluation of the EMA.

COURTHOUSE

Tom Barnes reported that currently only one bid has been received on the north side steps project. Barnes reported that this does not require advertising and the commissioners want to keep it local project.

Barnes reported on the courthouse pigeon problem. Barnes reported that a can mist spray is available. The Rushville Fire Department has agreed to clean the courthouse ledges. The spray is a fermented grape product. Barnes noted that both the military and the airlines use this product. The cost is not cheap and the spray will not irritate the public nasal passages.

AUDITOR

Deborah Adams, Auditor, received approval of payroll for the pay period ending April 15, 2011 on a motion by Marvin Cole, seconded by Ken Masters. Motion carried. Adams received approval on By-weekly claims for the period ending April 5, 2011 on a motion by Ken Masters, seconded by Marvin Cole. Motion carried.

Adams reminded everyone that the Lunch-N-Learn is scheduled for noon on Wednesday, April 13, 2011. Employees will have the opportunity to earn healthy bucks.

Adams reported that an e-mail has been sent to office holders and e-mails regarding Air E-Vac sign up.

Adams spoke of the SBOA (State Board of Accounts) exit audit. Tom Barnes will attend the exit review on Wednesday.

Ken Masters questioned how the ACH payments research was going. Adams reported that she was meeting with the software vendor on April 18, 2011 and that most counties in Indiana have gone this route.

MISC.

- Ken Masters reported that Ron Tolliver, of the National Able Network, has met with the Highway Department for possible implementation. Masters noted that he will ask Mr. Tolliver to return to the next meeting to answer possible questions.
- Andrea Niendenthal of Milroy received permission to hold a Zeta Tau scholarship 5K run/walk for the arts. The 5K run/walk is scheduled for May 21, 2011 and would require a barricade on Walnut Street. Marvin Cole made the motion to approve the 5K run/walk with the stipulation that they are responsible for pulling the barricade. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion to adjourn was received from Ken Masters. Marvin Cole seconded the motion. Motion carried.

/s/Tom Barnes
Tom Barnes, Chairman

/s/Marvin Cole
Marvin Cole

/s/Ken Masters
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams
Deborah C. Adams, Auditor